



# MARINA'S MESSAGE

NEWS YOU CAN USE **OCTOBER 2011**

**Dear Friends,**

Thank you to the many of you who have responded to our budget survey! Your opinion matters! We received County Executive Abele's 2012 Recommended County Budget on September 29<sup>th</sup>. You can find links here to view his budget speech and the budget online. I hope you will consider attending one of the hearings or listening sessions I am hosting. This past month, I held my 125<sup>th</sup> townhall meeting. Being accessible to the people I represent is critical to me. I look forward to hearing from you soon!

## **Milwaukee County Board Committees**

Parks, Energy, & Environment

Intergovernmental Relations

Transportation, Public Works & Transit

Chair, County Board Information Technology

Milwaukee County Commission on Aging

Lakefront Development Advisory Commission

Milwaukee County Research Park Board

## **Community Memberships**

Salvation Army Advisory Board

South Side Business Club

Sierra Club

Assn. of Marquette University Women

Bay View Neighborhood Association

American Council of Young Political Leaders

Bay View Historical Society

South Shore Park Watch

Bay View Lions Club

Inter-Organizational Council of Bay View

Bay View High School Alumni Association

9 to 5, Nat'l Association of Working Women

South Side Scholarship Foundation

Board of Directors, Emerge Wisconsin

UMOS Community Service Block Grant  
Advisory Committee

## **Marina in our Community**

Bay View Bash

Supervisor Dimitrijevic Honored as an Equality Rights Champion

Brides Walk for the UMOS Latina Resource Center

Mexican Independence Day

Bike the Hoan Ride

## **Legislative Update**

Budget Online Survey ([Link](#))

Budget Listening Sessions

Milwaukee County Budget Process

Supervisor Dimitrijevic Holds 125<sup>th</sup> Town Hall Meeting

County Executive Recommended Budget ([Link](#))

## **Recently In Milwaukee County**

County Board Approves Funds for Bay View Artistic Bus Shelter

Long Range Lakefront Plan ([Link](#))

County Board Public Hearing on 2012 County Budget

Prince Fielder Donates \$40,000 to Milwaukee County Parks

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## Bay View Bash



Supervisors Dimitrijevic and Haas shared a booth at this year's Bay View Bash. They met with and spoke to constituents regarding county government.

## Equality Rights Champions



Supervisors: Biddle, Dimitrijevic, and Haas pictured with County Executive Abele at the Equality Wisconsin Annual Meeting where they were honored as "Equal Rights Champions" for their work in the adoption of domestic partnership benefits in Milwaukee County.

## Bride's Walk



Supervisors Romo-West and Dimitrijevic walked in the Bride's Walk in support of the UMOs Latina resource Center and to raise awareness about domestic violence.

## Mexican Independence Day



Supervisor Dimitrijevic addresses the crowd speaking in Spanish at the UMOs Celebration of Mexican Independence Day in District 4. She also walked in the parade.

## Bike the Hoan Ride

Supervisor Dimitrijevic will join State Senator Chris Larson, local elected officials, and neighbors on Tuesday October 4<sup>th</sup> as they ride from Bay View to downtown. We will meet at 12:00pm at the Humboldt Park Pavilion.

The ride will illustrate the considerable safety concerns bikers face while biking on city streets if they wish to get from Milwaukee's South Shore suburbs to

Downtown or Milwaukee's east side neighborhoods.

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation (DOT) is currently conducting a feasibility study on including a bike and pedestrian lane as part of the Hoan Bridge reconstruction. The proposed project would be the last major piece to complete a trail network from Chicago through Milwaukee to Sheboygan. A bike and pedestrian lane on the Hoan will provide North-South riders with a direct route that is safer for pedestrians,

## 2012 Recommended County Budget

On September 29, the County Board received County Executive Chris Abele's 2012 Recommended Budget.

As you know, the State of Wisconsin recently adopted their Biennial Budget, which was full of major funding cuts for services in Milwaukee County. The Public Policy Forum, an independent organization, analyzed the County's current fiscal situation along with the cuts from the State. We have received approximately \$29 million in cuts to county services from the State.

Perhaps one of the most devastating cuts is the 10% reduction in funding for our Milwaukee County Transit System, the largest system which transports the most people in the State of Wisconsin. Our residents depend on this critical infrastructure to get to work and school. Many senior citizens and disabled persons rely on our bus system as their only mode of transportation. This is a basic quality of life service and an economic development tool. Many constituents have told me they don't want to live in a community that does not value this service.

You should have received a budget survey from me in the mail if you reside within District 4. It is also available online at [www.milwaukee.gov/dimitrijevic](http://www.milwaukee.gov/dimitrijevic)

I hope you will take the time to mail back your responses or take the online survey so that I can hear from you directly regarding the 2012 Milwaukee County Budget. This information is critical to me as I work on your behalf during this process.

You can read the County Executive's 2012 Recommended Budget address here: ([Link](#)).

View: Recommended Capital Budget ([Link](#))

Recommended Operating Budget ([Link](#))



# Legislative Update

## The County Budget Process

### April 1

Preliminary Preparation:  
Direction to County  
Departments on preparation of  
the subsequent year budget.

### June 1

Departments submit new  
position requests.

### June 15

Departments submit capital budget  
and operating budget requests.

### July & August

Department of Administrative  
Services and County Executive  
review of department budget  
requests.

### August 15

Department of Administration  
submits summary of budget  
requests to the County Board.

### September 29

County Executive presents the  
Recommended Budget to the County  
Board. The Budget is then referred  
to the Finance and Audit Committee  
for review.

### October

Finance and Audit Committee reviews the Recommended Budget in  
public budget hearings scheduled throughout the month. Check [here](#) for  
details on which departments are reviewed on which days.

### October 31

County Board Public Hearing on the  
budget, 7:00 p.m. at the Washington  
Park Senior Center.

### November 7<sup>th</sup>

County Board Annual Meeting and the adoption of the budget and tax  
levy. During this meeting, the County Board acts on the Amendments by  
the Finance and Audit Committee as well as amendments submitted by  
individual Supervisors.

### November 16

Consideration of County Executive  
budget vetoes and final adoption of  
property tax levy.

### January 1

County Executive and departments begin utilizing budget to provide  
public services.

## Supervisor Dimitrijevic Held 125<sup>th</sup> Town Hall Meeting

On Wednesday September 14<sup>th</sup>, Supervisor Marina Dimitrijevic held her 125<sup>th</sup> town hall meeting at the OASIS Center at 2414 W Mitchell St.

“These meetings are important opportunities for information exchange. My constituents bring great questions to the table, and I often utilize their input in drafting County Board resolutions and budget amendments,” Dimitrijevic added. “I thank the residents in my district for taking an active role in our community and participating in these meetings. I will continue this proactive approach of providing open forums for my neighbors.”

Since taking office in 2004, Supervisor Dimitrijevic has held 125 town hall meetings, budget listening sessions and issue-oriented public meetings.

## County Board Approves Funds for Bay View Artistic Bus Shelter

Milwaukee, WI – Milwaukee County Supervisors Marina Dimitrijevic and Jason Haas are thanking the County Board for approving a resolution to fund part of the construction costs for a new artistic bus shelter in Milwaukee's Bay View neighborhood.

The shelter is planned for the triangle at the corner of S. Kinnickinnic Avenue and W. Lincoln Avenue, which is a busy transfer point within the Milwaukee County Transit System (MCTS) and is located in Supervisor Dimitrijevic's district.

The Supervisors have authored the resolution to allocate \$50,000 from the Public Art Program to offset construction costs of the bus shelter. The unique structure would enhance the attractiveness of the area and add to the character of the Bay View neighborhood.

"We are happy that Milwaukee County is partnering with the City of Milwaukee and local businesses to make this project a reality. We thank Alderman Zielinski and the KK BID for their leadership to beautify our neighborhood and look forward to this partnership.

These public funds will help beautify an important part of our business district, while at the same time enhancing a highly used transit shelter. These are all important parts of a healthy, urban neighborhood," Supervisor Dimitrijevic said. "Route 15 provides key service to the south side, and it's time we improve the transfer point along this route."

A local design competition is giving citizens the chance to make a statement while creating a welcome gateway in the Bay View neighborhood.

## Long-Range Lakefront Plan

The Long-Range Lakefront Planning Committee, created by the County Board, has developed a [vision](#) for the lakefront near downtown Milwaukee.

The Committee, which was chaired by Parks Director Sue Black, provides recommendations on the future of O'Donnell Park and the Downtown Transit Center. The plan was adopted by the County Board in September, and the Parks Committee will hold a public hearing in October. Philanthropist Michael Cudahy played a key role by jump-starting this discussion and participating on the Committee.

Although the Committee had until the end of 2012 to complete its [report](#), we received the recommendations more than a year early. Thanks go to all Committee members for a job well done.

## Budget Listening Sessions

Supervisor Dimitrijevic invites you to participate in a discussion of the 2012 Budget at two meetings she will host in October.

**October 10, 6:00-8:00pm**

**Co-hosted by Supervisors Haas and Dimitrijevic**

South Shore Park Pavilion, 2900 S. Shore Dr.

**October 12, 12:30-1:30pm**

OASIS Senior Center, 2414 W. Mitchell St

## County Board Public Hearing on 2012 County Budget

The County Board of Supervisors Public Hearing on the 2012 County Budget will be held on:

October 31<sup>st</sup> at 7:00pm

Washington Park Senior Center,

4420 W. Vliet St.

## Prince Fielder Donates \$40,000 to Milwaukee County Parks

Milwaukee Brewer's Major League MVP All-Star first baseman Prince Fielder presented a \$40,000 check to Milwaukee County Parks at the start of the game on Saturday, September 24 between the Brewers and the Florida Marlins.

At the 82nd annual All-Star Game earlier this year, as part of the Chevy Diamond and Dreams Program, Chevrolet announced that as MVP of the game, Prince Fielder, would be able to select an organization that could put the \$40,000 donation toward improvement of inner city youth baseball fields. Prince Fielder, while working with the Brewers Community Foundation, selected Milwaukee County Parks as the donation recipient.

"This gift is another Prince Fielder home run," Milwaukee County Executive Chris Abele said. "We're grateful that he's decided to invest in supporting baseball fields in our parks and in Milwaukee County youths."



Milwaukee County Parks along with the guidance of the Brewers Community Foundation submitted several park locations to Chevrolet where this money could be used for field improvements. Zablocki Park in Milwaukee, located at 3717 W. Howard Ave., was the site selected by Chevrolet.

Sue Black, Director of Milwaukee County Parks, said, "We are thrilled to be selected by Prince and Chevy for the gracious donation to help improve fields in the inner city. As a park system, we have an opportunity to really make a statement and to further touch the youth of this community."